

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method for increasing the identifiability of a watermark on finishing a printed security sheet and increasing the durability of the security sheet, said printed security sheet comprising at least one watermark, said method comprising the steps of:

- partially coating said printed security sheet ~~in one step~~ with a layer of lacquer to said ~~at least one watermark~~, whereby said ~~at least one watermark~~ is emphasized by increasing the transparency thereof; and
- lacquering said printed security sheet ~~in another step~~ over its whole surface to increase the durability of said security sheet.

Claims 2-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (original) The method for finishing of claim 1, wherein a colorless lacquer is used for the lacquering.